THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 10th September 1946.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

[a] * 40 Q and * 41 Q were taken up after * 42 Q

Admissions into Medical Colleges.

* 42 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether any rules have been framed by Government regulating admissions into Medical Colleges;

(b) if so, what they are;

(c) whether there have been complaints that the arbitrary fixation of percentages and the application of communal representation have proved detrimental to the interests of certain sections of the community; and

(d) whether the question of revising these rules is under the consideration of the Government?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) A copy [b] of the rules is laid on the table of the Council.

" (c) The percentages have not been fixed and the communal representation has not been made on an arbitrary basis. Some representations have been received. Some community or other is always bound to feel aggrieved.

" (d) The rules have been issued provisionally for this year, and the whole question is being examined."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister for Public Health how these percentages have been arrived at for different groups mentioned in rule 3-A of the rules for selection? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Will the hon. Member kindly repeat his question? "

(The question was repeated.)

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" No percentages have been fixed."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—" Certain percentages have been fixed. The percentage for group 1 is fixed at 50·8, the percentage for group 2 at 38·1 and the percentage for group 3 as 11;1. How have these percentages been arrived at? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" I am not aware as to how these percentages were arrived at."

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a Vide pages 313—315 infra.

b Printed as Appendix I on pages 351–354 infra.

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K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is it not a fact that these percentages have been fixed on the basis of the population of the respective groups and also of the number of medical men at present existing in these groups? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I do not understand what the hon. Member means when he asks whether the percentages have been arrived at on the basis the number of medical men existing."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" On the basis of the number of medical men in the groups means this. For example, I am told that the number of admissions from Malabar is lower than what the district is entitled to on a population basis, because it is said there is a large number of medical men there."

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" These percentages seem to have been fixed on a population basis, for instance, 50·8 per cent of the seats have been allotted to the Tamil districts, 38·1 per cent to the Telugu districts. I think 11·1 per cent of the seats have been allotted to Malabar and South Kanara on the population basis."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I ask what consideration or considerations led the Government to do away with the selection committees for these various medical colleges? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I would request the hon. Member to put this question more audibly."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister for Public Health what she means by ' orderly '? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" She means ' audibly ' and not ' orderly '."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I asked, Sir, what considerations led the Government to do away with the selection committees especially for the medical colleges."

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" The Government thought that this work could be more efficiently done by the principals of the three medical colleges."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Will not a committee do the thing more efficiently, because there will be more heads than three? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" The Government did not consider that the committee would have done its work better than the principals of the three colleges."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think this may form the subject of a separate question."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether she will be pleased to consider any representations made before these rules are finally altered as she has promised in reply to clause (d)? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" Yes, the hon. Member's suggestion will be considered."

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SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether any representations have been received from Rayalaseema that seats should be reserved on population basis to students from Rayalaseema?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" So far as I am aware only verbal representations have been received. Written representations have been received from the Malabar district Muslim League Committee, and the Vannikula Kshatriya Sangam."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any representations have been received from members of the Madras Legislature that certain seats should be reserved in the medical colleges for students from Rayalaseema?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I have already stated that some members of the Madras Legislative Assembly did make representations, but I am not aware that written representations have been made."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that the percentage basis rules based only on linguistic basis adversely affects the interests of students coming from Rayalaseema, in view of the restricted facilities for medical education?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" My information, Sir, is that the interests of students coming from Rayalaseema have not been adversely affected."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" How many students from Rayalaseema have been admitted into medical colleges this year?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" A separate question may be put."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it not a fact that a medical college has been opened in Guntur intended for students in the Andhra area?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" It is true that a medical college has been opened at Guntur this year, but I am unable to say whether that medical college is intended mainly for Andhra students."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" May I ask why a departure has been made this year and 20 per cent of the students have been selected on merit?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" It is based on the recommendations made by the Bhore Committee. They suggested that one-third of the total number of seats should be filled on the basis of merit but a compromise was arrived at and it was thought that it would be better if 20 per cent of the total number of seats were filled on the basis of merit."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Bhore Committee recommended that a medical college should be located in Bellary or Anantapur and that preference should be given to students coming from the Ceded

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districts in the matter of admission to this college until the college is started?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I do not think a question of preference comes in in the selection of students for these medical colleges. In fact the Guntur Medical College is almost on the border of the Ceded districts and the question of giving preference to the students of the Ceded districts does not arise at all."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that though a medical college has been started in Guntur no preference has been shown to students coming from Cuddapah district in the matter of admission to this college, not even one student has been admitted?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I do not think selection was made according to the districts but according to the percentages mentioned in the rules for the selection of candidates."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" So far as doctors are concerned, Sir, is it not preferable to give districtwar representation rather than representation of whole areas like Tamil districts, Andhra districts and the West Coast?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I do not think so, Sir."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I ask, Sir, if all the recommendations of the Bhore Committee have been given effect to by the Provincial Government and if not what is the urgency for giving effect to this particular recommendation regarding admission by merit alone this year?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" In reply to the very same supplementary question put in the other House I stated that the question of the efficiency of the services was taken into account and therefore we had to order selection on the basis of merit for a limited percentage of students."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Does the Hon. Minister think that the efficiency of the services had been affected before this principle of selection by merit was given effect to? Has it been found that those who studied in those colleges have become inefficient before giving effect to this rule are inefficient? Have those students who have come out of the colleges before giving effect to the rule of 20 per cent admission by merit been proved to be inefficient or incapable of discharging their duties?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I am unable to answer this question, Sir."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" My question arises out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that

considerations of efficiency were responsible for giving effect to this principle this year without caring for the other recommendations of the Bhore Committee?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Hon. Minister says that she cannot answer the question."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Does the Hon. Minister believe that admission by merit to the extent of 20 per cent should apply only to the medical college and not to other colleges, such as the Engineering and the Veterinary Colleges?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" This 20 per cent rule has been applied to the Engineering College as well."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" To the Agricultural and Veterinary Colleges?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I am not quite sure."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Realizing the responsibility of Government for providing education for all, will the Government at least next year make every effort to provide the necessary accommodation in the colleges to see that every applicant is admitted?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" It may not be possible unless we have one thousand of colleges for all the thousands of applicants that have been forthcoming."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is it not possible to give representation to all communities in such a manner as to give reasonable satisfaction to all the communities?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" For 80 per cent of the seats communal representation will be applied. Therefore all the communities will have representation."

Employment to members of Indian National Army.

* 40 *Q.*—SRI MOTHAY NARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is the definite policy of the Government to provide employment to the members of the Indian National Army who have returned to their respective places in this Presidency; and

(*b*) if so, whether any circulars have been sent to all Government departments to give them preference in making appointments?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (*a*) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" On a point of information, Sir. May I ask what became of the representation on behalf of this House to have microphones and loudspeakers installed in this House?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That question has been considered and experts are of the opinion that this Hall is not suitable for the installation of loudspeakers. That is why no arrangements have